REMARKS

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By this Amendment, claims 125-132, 135-136, 140-144, 147-150, 170-177, 179-180, 183-186, 194-196, 201-204, 221, 223, 225, 227-230, 244, 292-297, 302-305, 334-337 and 405-422 are cancelled. Claims 24-27, 122-124 and 145-146 remain in the application. Thus, claims 24-27, 122-124 and 145-146 are active in the application.

In item 2 on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner issued an additional restriction requirement between Invention I and Invention II.

The Examiner identified claims 24-27, 122-127, 129-132, 135-136, 140-150, 170-175, 177, 180, 201-204, 221, 223, 225, 227-230, 244, 292-297, 302-305, 334-337 and 409-420 as reading on Invention I.

The Examiner identified claims 128, 176, 179, 183-186, 194-196, 405-408 and 421-422 as reading on Invention II.

In item 2 on page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserted that the claims reading on Invention I were constructively elected by original presentation because an Office Action was issued on the originally presented claims reading on Invention I.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for kindly indicating, in item 5 on page 7 of the Office Action, that claims 24-27, 122-124 and 145-146 are allowed.

In item 4 on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 125-127, 129-132, 135-136, 140-144, 147-150, 170-175, 177, 180, 201-204, 221, 223, 225, 227-230, 244, 292-297, 302-305, 334-337, 409-410, 412, 414-417 and 419 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cinvalar et al. (U.S. 5,737,333).

Without intending to acquiesce to the above rejection and merely to expedite allowance of the present application, these rejected claims have been cancelled.

Accordingly, the Applicants submit that only allowed claims 24-27, 122-124 and 145-146 remain in the application.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is respectfully solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Hisao FURUKAWA et al.

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